



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

San Diego Region

Winston H. Hickox
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

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TO: File 50.2661.05

FROM: Sue Pease, Environmental Scientist
SAN DIEGO REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

DATE: March 1, 2002

SUBJECT: Meeting with Representatives of Budget Trade & Gas Facility, 510 West 5th Avenue, Escondido, CA

Mr. Jimmy Hsu, owner and operator of Budget Trade and Gas, Mrs. Mi Mi Wong (a Mandarin Chinese translator), Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) staff member, Sue Pease, and Chuck Houser and Steve Jensen (consultants with Southern California Soil & Testing, Inc.) met at our office on November 8, 2001 to discuss the following:

- 1) USTCF November 29, 2001 letter: denial of preapproval of corrective action cost.
- 2) Escondido Lumber access agreement – any problems?
- 3) January 7, 2002 RWQCB 13267 directive for installation of ground water monitoring wells and monitoring data.
- 4) February 21, 2002 RWQCB 13267 directive for submittal of alternative remedial action.
- 5) February 22, 2002 Ability to Pay Analysis memo to Sacramento.
- 6) February 25, 2002 Notice of Violation for failure to submit laboratory data in electronic deliverable format. Discuss Geotracker submittals.
- 7) Submittals of reports – one copy please (duplicates are thrown away).
- 8) Chronology & Compliance Dates Tables.
- 9) Monthly payments on ACL – Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar. are due.
- 10) April 10 Board meeting.

Meeting discussion:

We brought in a Mandarin translator, Mrs. Wong, to help overcome language problems since Mr. Hsu's first language is Mandarin Chinese.

Item 1. The USTCF denied preapproval of corrective action cost. The letter gave 2 alternatives: to resubmit with their approved amount, or submit three bids for a different amount.

Chuck Houser stated that he did not address that letter when it was mailed because he focused on a January 15, 2002 deadline to submit a technical report on results of the pilot test. Chuck stated he would resubmit by the end of March for the amount stated in the USTCF letter.

California Environmental Protection Agency

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Item 2. Steve and Chuck stated that Escondido Lumber has been cooperative regarding access to the property for installation of ground water monitoring wells. Chuck stated that a permit application has been submitted for the wells to be installed.

Item 3. Chuck stated that the installation of new ground water monitoring wells is on track, and there should be no problem submitting a technical report by the deadline. Chuck reminded Mr. Hsu that there is a \$1,500 fee to the City of Escondido for each ground water monitoring well to be installed in the city street.

Item 4. Chuck wanted to write a letter to John Robertus requesting more time to write up an alternative remediation proposal. I discussed with Chuck and Mr. Hsu that all I want is a short letter that describes what remediation will be proposed for the Budget Trade & Gas site since the vapor extraction pilot test demonstrated that vapor extraction is not appropriate for this site. Chuck explained that he would like to use Oxygen Releasing Compound (ORC) in the excavation while the soil is being excavated. ORC would also be put into treatment wells. Julie and I explained that the RWQCB will be issuing Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) for ground water treatment, and that type of treatment would require coverage under the WDRs. Julie suggested that they wait till the general WDRs are adopted before actually starting treatment with ORC since site specific WDRs will probably take as long to secure as coverage under the as-yet-to-be adopted general WDRs.

Item 5. I discussed the Ability to Pay Analysis that the Economics Unit in Sacramento will be performing. Julie suggested postponing the hearing before the Board members until the Ability to Pay Analysis is completed. I agreed to call Gerald Horner, Office of Statewide Initiatives, to determine how long it would take to complete the analysis.

Item 6. I discussed the submittals to Geotracker that occurred on February 28, 2002. There are sample numbers labeled "draft", unusual quality control labeling, soil data, and an unusual label for the type of submittal (Add_R). Chuck will check into the problems. I also told Chuck and Mr. Hsu that I cannot accept the soil data until I receive a hard copy.

Item 7. Chuck did not realize I received two copies of the most recent reports. He will ensure I only receive one in the future.

Item 8. I reviewed the chronology that I submit to the Board members, and the compliance dates table. Mr. Hsu needs to keep track of due dates for reports and the compliance dates table will help him.

Item 9. There has not been a payment on ACL No. 2000-23 since September 2001, and until we have results from the Ability to Pay Analysis, Mr. Hsu needs to continue to make monthly payments. Mr. Hsu stated that he had to pay 2 attorneys for the access agreement with Escondido Lumber, and now must pay \$3,000 to the City of Escondido for two ground water monitoring wells. He stated that he can only pay \$50 a month, and he will bring a check next week.



Item 10. The hearing for ACL Complaint No. 2000-256 will be continued at the April 10 Board meeting, unless we postpone the hearing to wait for the Ability to Pay Analysis.

cc: Mr. Jimmy Hsu
Mr. Chuck Houser

bcc: John Robertus
Art Coe
Dave Barker
Julie Chan
John Richards

